

LEGAL CLINIC OF GUELPH AND WELLINGTON COUNTY
WELLINGTON COUNTY ENERGY REFERRALS

This has been provided to you as a courtesy by the Legal Clinic of Guelph and Wellington County. None of the referral information or the internet links provided below should be construed as legal advice. They are provided as a resource to help.

- Welcome Drop-in Centre
Telephone: 519-837-0080
Located at 23 Gordon St. in Guelph, ON the Drop-in Centre can provide financial assistance with last month rent, primary utilities including hydro and gas, as well as emergency shelter.

- Salvation Army
Telephone: 519-836-9824
Located at 210 Victoria Rd. S. in Guelph, ON the Salvation Army can provide financial assistance with housing costs and utilities such as gas and hydro payments.

- Ontario Works Emergency Energy Fund & Low-Income Energy Support Program
Telephone: 519-837-2670 ext. 3712 (Ontario Works)
Accessed through Ontario Works, the Emergency Energy Fund (EEF) and Low-Income Energy Support Program (LEAP) provide support to low-income Ontarians (including Ontario Works and Ontario Disability recipients), facing energy-related emergencies. The EEF is a one-time only benefit that is used to pay for utility arrears, security deposits and reconnection costs for all utilities. LEAP provides assistance for Guelph Hydro arrears only and can be accessed annually. Each municipality sets its own eligibility criteria for these programs. OW and ODSP recipients should contact their individual case worker for more information and assistance with this program.

- Discretionary Benefit to Cover Energy Conservation Measures
Telephone: 519-837-2670 ext. 3560 (Ontario Works)
This is a **\$50 one-time benefit** to pay for pre-approved, low-cost energy conservation measures, such as caulking, sealing or weather stripping around doors and windows, insulating hot water pipes and hot water tanks, and installing flow restrictors in showerhead pipes. This benefit is available to all applicants through Ontario Works' Emergency Energy Fund pending financial criteria approval and also to members of ODSP (Ontario Disability). OW and ODSP clients can contact their caseworkers directly for more information.

- Your Legal Rights
Your Legal Rights is a project of CLEO (Community Legal Education Ontario) and is funded by the Law Foundation of Ontario (www.yourlegalrights.on.ca). This is a great online resource that offers a variety of information that will help individuals better understand and exercise their legal rights.

- Community Start-Up and Maintenance Benefits (CSUMB)

CSUMB is for people who qualify for social assistance (OW and ODSP) and are about to lose their housing because they owe rent or utility payments. To prevent a utility or heat disconnection, CSUMB may be issued to a recipient who has received a notice to disconnect due to utility or energy arrears. In addition, CSUMB may be issued to pay for utility or energy reconnection costs. OW or ODSP recipients can contact their respective case worker for more information and assistance with applying for this program.

- Ontario Energy Board (OEB)
Telephone: 1-877-632-2727
Website: ontarioenergyboard.ca

The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) provides information and guidelines regarding all utilities. The OEB also deals with issues that fall under the Energy Consumer Protection Act. OEB offers online price comparisons, tip sheets, energy contract disclosure statements as well as links to other helpful resources.